MINUTES

-OF THE-

57th Annual Session

-OF THE-

*North * River * Baptist * Association, *

---HELD WITH

LIBERTY GROVE CHURCH, Walker County, Ala.,

September 26-27-28, 1891.

Next Session to be held with Bethlehem Church, Tuskaloosa Co., Ala., commencing on Saturday hefore the fourth Sunday in September, 1892.

OFFICERS:

L. M. BRADLEY, Moderator.....
J. S. WATTS, Clerk...

... Jasper, Ala. Day's Gap, Ala.



Headlight Print, Jasper, Alabama.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Devotional Exercises.

2. Read Constitution, Articles of Faith and Rules of Decoria.

3. Presentation of letters from the churches.

4. Election of Officers,

5. Call for Petitionary Letters.

6 Invite visiting ministers, not delegates, to seals.

7. Receive Correspondence. 8. Return Correspondence,

9. Appointment of special committees: (1) on religious exercises, (2) on documents, (3) on nominations, (4) on finance, (5) on prayer

and prayer meetings.

10. Call for report on standing committees: (1) on Sunday schools, (2) on temperance, (3) on state missions, (4) on home missions, (5) on foreign missions, (6) on education, (7) on aged and infirm ministers.

11. Report of Treasurer.

12. Appoint Treasurer.

13. Call for report of special committees: (1) on documents, (2) on nomination, (3) on finance, (4) on prayer and prayer meetings.

14. Call for Report of Executive Committee.

15. Appoint Standing Committees.

16. Miscellaneous business.

17. Read minutes, call roll and adjourn.

MINUTES.

The fifty-seventh annual session of the North River Baptist Association convened with Liberty Grove church, Walker county, Alabama, on Saturday Sept. 26, 1891.

The introductory sermon was presched by Eld, L. B. Harbin. Text;

It you love me keep my commandments. St. John 14:15

After preaching a recess was given until 2 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 2 o'clock v.m. the delegates re-assembled and after devotional services was called to order by its Moderator. On motion the reading of the Constitution, Articles of Faith and Rules of Decorum were omitted. The roll of the churches was then called and letters from the various churches presented. Brethren J. W. Rogers, J. E. Barnaud and Jno. H. Pool were appointed to read the letters.

LIST OF CHURCHES AND DELEGATES.

Absentees marked thus*

Absentees marked thus*

Salem—W. M. Jackson, H. C. Crump, *J. B. Randolph.

Samaria—*A. L. Files, *Wm. Sherer, *R. M. Ried, *J. B. Sherer.

Jasper—L. M. Bradley, S. Lacy, Wm. Randolph, J. W. Rogers, G. D. O'Rear,

E. S. McIntyre, J. F. Appling, W. T. Walton.

Mt. Carmel—J. A. Sumner, J. T. Morris, *D. R. Price.

New Prospect—J. P. Mooney, *L. P. Kiker, *M. M. Sherer.

Gambie Mines—*W. N. Hayes, *P. S. Burton, *J. H. Burton.

Hepsibah—W. P. Smith, *Minor Wilson, *J. H. Smith.

Zion—L. B. Harbin, *J. T. Busbee, *D. C. Barrentine. *J. M. Busbee, *Wm.

Richardson.

Union Grove-*Jno. Wallis, J. M. Fulton, *Jno. M. Cannon.

Union—*R. Colburn, T. C. Omery, W. T. Colburn.
Pleasant Grove, F. C.—S. H. Key, Isaac Hamilton, W. C. C. Brown.
Pleasant Field—B. F. Sides, *J. L. Leonard, *W. P. Odom.
Macedonia—J. E. Barnard, *J. W. Tipper, C. C. Kelly, Frank Barnard, *G.

W. Castlebury, *L. C. Kelly.

Providence—*J. R. Sartain, *C. H. Day, *G. E. Covin, R. F. Sumner, B. F.

Clements, J. S. Watts,

Oregonia—*D. A. Utley, Alcey Johnson, *J. S. Swindle.
Pleasant Grove, W. C.—Wm. Dutton, J. E. Grace, Jas. Sparks, W. C. Kitchen,
W. F. Sides, Jas. Rutledge, W. T. Rutledge, E. O. Ferguson, *D. P. Kilgore.
New Hope—F. M. Mackey, *J. W. Fields, *J. P. Reece.
New River—J. I. McCollum, *A. W. Killingsworth, *J. M. Wake-

field, *Stephen Woodard.

Mt. Zion—*Wm. Patton, *A. J. Kimbell, Jas. Patton, Andy Patton. Mt. Joy—*W. B. Earnest, *L. H. Baker, *Z. J. Amerson, W. M. Kimbell, R. A. Baker, H. G. Amerson.

Bethlehem—D. A. Kemp, Wm. McDuff *E. T. Whitson, *R. A. McDuff. Day's Gap—T. J. Creel, Jno. H. Pool, *M. L. Jones, *Jas. H. Pool. Lebanon—*R. M. Earnest, *W. W. Earnest, W. R. Thacker, J. T. Jones *A. Kilgore.

Berry Station—*A. J. Hocutt, *A. K. Newton, *J. F. McDuff.
Liberty Grove—A. A. Sides, C. M. D. Wilson, J. M. Sides. John Keeton.
Bethel—J. E. Kilgore, *R. B. Kilgore, *J. W. Hamner.
Bethabara—*I. W. Awtory, N. H. Harbin, W. B. Oakley.
Sardis—*S. R. Brown, S. M. Nelson, *Wm. Nelson.

The Association was permanently organized by electing Eld. L. M.

Bradley Moderator and J. S. Wacts Clerk.

Then called for petionary letters from newly constituted or dismissed churches and the following named brethren came forward bearing letters and were received:

Liberty-Jas. Hilton, C. A. Sims, C. Jackson, Obediah Howell. Townley-J. K. P. Manasco, *J. L. Wright, *J. F. Fikes.

Then invited ministers, not delegates, to seats and J. C. Hudson came forward and was received from the Southern Female Univerity, Brother C. C. Collins was also received.

Received correspondence to-wit:

From Clear Creek Association-E. R. Little. Returned correspon-

On motion any of our brethren bearing minutes are authorized correspondents to any of the sister Associations with whom we corres-

Proceeded to appoint the following committees:

On Religious Exercises—Pastors and Deacons of Liberty Grove church together with W. T. Walton and C. C. Kelly.
On Documents-J. W. Rogers, L. B, Harbin, J. A. Sumner.

On Nominations—J. F. Appling, J. K. P. Manasco, E. S. McIntyre.

On Finance-G. D. O'Rear, J. T. Morris, R. A. Baker.

On Prayer and Prayer Meetings-W. T. Rutledge, H. G. Amerson; W. L. Sides.

Called for report of District Meetings.

Report of first District read and adopted that part only locating Association.

The next session of the North River Baptist Association to be held with Bethlehem church, Tuscaloosa county, Alabama.
J. S. Watts, Clerk L. B. HARBIN, Moderator.

The tollowing resolution was adopted:

Resolved that this Association dispense with District meetings and adopt 5th Sunday meetings instead thereof, and allow all members of this Association, good standing, seats as delegates.

On motion Sunday 9:30 a.m. was appointed to hear report on Sunday

schools and 2 o'clock p.m. to hear report on education.

Committee on religious exercises report that Bro. J. C. Hudson oreach at 7 o'clock to-night.

Then adjourned until 9:30 o'clock a. m. Sunday.

SUNDAY MORNING.

At 9:30 o'clock a. m. met pursuant to adjournment and after devotional services was called to order. Report on Sunday Schools read and after being discussed by L. B. Harbin and others was adopted.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We, your committee on Sunday Schools, report that we believe the Sunday School interest is increasing in our Association. We as a denomination have in the United States 2,732,570 members, but only about 1,011,585 scholars and our churches number 30,500, but our Sunday Schools number only about 14,000 leaving 13,000 churches without Sunday Schools, and in our own state, (Ala.) one Sunday School to three churches and we find from reading the church letters to our Association that twelve churches report Sunday Schools this year. whereas only eight reported Sunday schools last year, This gives us about one Sunday school to three churches in the Association. Now we as Baptist believe that the Bible is not a law as a creed but that the Bible is Jesus Christ revealed and because he would manifest it that men might have life and have it more abundantly. The Book which embodies him; which tells of his presence and his possessions of the total world; That is the inspiration of our life. Men say, Shall the Bible have prominence in human thought? Shall it be the inspiration of human life, experience and knowledge in the future, that it has had in the past? Let us not ask it of the Bible, but of Christ. To our minds, we need to begin teaching and training our young people in the Bible such as our fathers never dreamed of as necessary. A general profanation of the Lord's Day prevails in nearly all sections. Lawlessness, anarchy and infidelity are rife everywhere. But when we call to mind the fact that there are eight millions of children and youths gathered in the Sunday schools of the land on every Lord's Day learning obedience to Christ and to law we may take courage and hope for the nations permanence and continued prosperity. Sunday schools are largely the hope of the nation and of the churches. Religion is a force of such tremenous power when applied to the character that every one who thinks and estimates the strength of influence of shaping the world can but be anxious, touching the natuse of that religious education which has brought our young people round about us. About no other thing should we be more zealous; concerning no other training should we give greater attention than the training of young people. Now Jesus recognized this principle to the full. He was a thinker, a profound thinker; one of those men born into the world to think out the relation of things and the connection which exist between cause and effect, especially in the moral realm. He had one of those minds which think far ahead towards the end, deep down toward the forces that are shaping the world's character and are capable of shaping it. He saw that the world which was then, he could not change much and that to succeed in his sublime mission of saving the world, He must work through the possibilities of reconstruction and these possibilities He saw were in the youths and in those that trained the youths. To them therefore He turned with an expectant face and with the assurance of one who feels that he has struck the clue that will lead him out of the labarynth and just at that point he exclaims: Suffer the little children to come unto me and forbid them not for of such is the kingdom of heaven; or that other command. When after the answering to his three fold question on the Galilean sea as the Risen One, Lovest thou me; said he to his disciples: Be feeding my lambs. Now is it the experience of all of the preachers on this floor who have had experience in dealing with hardened old sinners have not Can a man be born when he is felt like exclaiming as did Nicodemus of old: old? Now in conclusion we would say the Sunday school is the primary department of the church for preparing souls to be caved and preparing material for the church. Respectfully submitted.

J. F. Appling Chairman.

At 11 o'clock a. m. a missionary sermon was preached by Eld. L. M Bradley to a large and attentive congregation. There was a short but impressive missionary speech by Eld. L. B. Harbin After which a public collection was taken for mission.

LIST OF PERSONS CONTRIBUTING.

L. B. Harbin	Paid	\$5.00 J. D. Pittman	Paid	5.00
G. D. O'Rear	"	5.00 E. S. McIntyre	22	5.00
W. B. Appling	71	5.00 J. K. P. Manasco	27	2.50
J. F. Appling	"	5.00 J. P. Mooney	"	2,50
J. I. McCollum	22	5.00 W. T. Walton	77	2.50
S. Lacy	>>	5.00 Wm. McDuff	27	2.00
J. W. Rogers	٠,	5.00 J. S. Watts	77	1.00
W. G. Davis	22	5.00 A. A. Sides	77	1.00
L. M. Bradley	27	5.00 H. G. Amerson	79	1.00

		4		
J. E. Barnard	"	5.00 P. M. Stewart	"	1.00
C. C. Kelley	"	5.00 A. M. McCullers	"	1.00
R. A. Baker	"	5.00 C. M. D. Wilson	"	1.00
E. O'Rear	"	5.00 G. G. Bagwell	22	1.00
Wm. Randolph	"	5.00 D. A. Kemp	"	1.00
L. G. Leggette	"	5.00 Frank Barnard	"	1.00
J. T. Morris	22	5.00 S. R. Burchfield	"	1.00
Jno. H. Pool	>>	5.00 H. R. Sides	23	1.00
J. S. Black	"	5.00 Mrs. Malinda Sides.	"	1.00
	Amour	nt collected	\$124	1.50
	Then a	hat collection, amounting to	8	3.35
	Tota	l collection for missions on Sur	iday 132	2.85

Then adjourned until 2:30 oclock p. m. met pursuant to adjournment and after devotional services was called to order.

Called for report on education. Report read and after being discussed by W. B. Appling and others was adopted.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

Your committee on education respectfully reports that as far as its knowledge extends the spirit of educations has kept a pace with the increase of population and the development of our section of Alabama, if not in advance of them, and we are pleased to state that many of our people are thoroughly aroused and alive to the great importance and necessity of education. Your committee congrabulates Howard College, located at East Lake, Alabama, and the Judson Female Institute located at Marion, Alabama and the excellent work done and progress made by them, since this association last met, and highly recommend to the Baptist of this section, Howard College as an excellent institution of learning for the higher education of their sons and the Judson Female Institue as a first class College in which the daughters of those who will patronize it have an opportunity to acquire a thorough and accomplished education. The Southern Female University recently built and located at Florence, Alabama is also a Baptist Institution of learning and bids fair to become one of the best in the south. And since some of our sisters and daughters were educated at the Central Female College at Tuskaloosa, Alabama, your committee cannot overlook it as a college, for the daughters of such as desire to patronize it. The Baptist of this Association in common with the Baptist of Alabama are justly proud of these institutions of learning, and our people should talk and work for them, and ought as far as they are able to patronize them. And in conclusion your committee suggest that our people encourage and patronize their home schools. Respectfully submitted.

W. B., Appling, Chairman,
In the absence of the committee on religeous literature the moderator appointed the following named brethren to prepare a report, to-wit:
Jas. Hilton, J. I. McCollum and N. H. Harbin.

Adjourned to meet at 6:30 c'clock at night.

NIGHT SESSION.

At 6:30 o'clock p. m. the Association was called to order. Prayer by Jas. Hilton. Then the report on education was futher discussed and the following resolutions were adopted as amendments to said report:

Resolved that each church in this Association be requested to take a collection for ministerial education between this and January 1, 1892 and forward to G. D. O'Rear, Jasper, Ala.

W. T. Walton.

Resolved that this Association recommend that the preachers of our Association attend the Theological Institute at Howard College. J. F. Appling

Adjourned till 8 o'clock Monday morning.

MONDAY MORNING SESSION.

At 8 o'clock a. m. met pursuant to adjournment and after devotional services was called to order.

Report on temperance was read and after being discussed by Jas. Hilton and many others was adopted.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Your committee on temperance beg leave to report that while the cause of temperance has not and perhaps will never accomplish all that we could wish; It is very true that while the prohibition law was in force that in many instances the law was violated. Many have committed crime and have been imhas been the cause of it all. At the same time we are sorry to say that some of our Baptist brethren favor the sale of whisky in our county towns and villages because they say the prohibition law is violated. Since our last Association the prohibition law of some of our towns has been rapealed. There are whisky shops running in several places in our county. There are three running in the There is a great deal more of town of Jasper and we see the great evil of it. drunkenness and crime committed than when we had prohibition. been full ever since the repealing of the prohibition law in our towns. say that nine tenths of these poor unfortunates criminals have committed crime against the laws of the country while under the influence of whisky, which was the grand cause of their imprisonment and punishment. We need not dwell upon ravages, wastes, crimes, devastated homes, blighted lives, crowded prisons, etc., aused by intemperance that is admitted by all good and thoughtful men. uestion that confronts us is how best to promote the interest of temperance, We think the best way to accomplish this is to persuade our people to abstain from intoxicant drinks and do all in our power as parents, as teachers, as preachers, as churches and citizens by moral suasion and education to teach the rising generation to shun strong drink as they would a deadly foe. Let us fight the monster in every conceiveble way and prove our sincerity by a total abstinance ourselves. Respectfully submitted.

WM. RANDOLPH, Chairman.

On motion the reports on State, Home and Foreign Mission were all read and after being discussed by S. Lacy and others were adopted.

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

Your committee on state missions submit the following report: We are happy to report that last year was a year of prosperity for the mission cause in Alabama. A decided advance in contributions to our state board has been made. Information about the board and its work is dispelling ignorance and prejudice from the minds of our people. And if present progress be maintained our denomination may expect at no distant period to become more united in missionary spirit and enterprise. In the bounds of our own association we have had one missionary (Brother J. E. Barnard) employed about four months. It is impossible for one man in such a limited time to supply all the destitute places with preaching. We recommend that a missionary be employed for a longer period of time during next year, and that our churches raise sufficient means to support him. Since writing the above we learn that brother J. W. Rogers was employed to preach some too, on Sunday only. We futher recommend that the association continue to cooperate with the state mission board. Respectfully submitted.

J. S. Watrs, Chairman.

REPORT ON HOME MISSION.

We your committee on home mission beg leave to submit the following taken from the report of the committee on home mission read at our last Southern Baptist Convention in the city of Birmingham in May last, as our report The rapid and increasing influx of people from other nationalities into the field covered by the Home Mission Board makes it of great importance that we meet

them with an open Bible and a pure gospel. One of the serious menaces to our free institutions and to our religion arises from this demand of our society. The rapid development in material resources in our southern country invite to our limits a large portion of the emigration to the United States. The experience limits a large portion of the emigration to the United States. of the civil authorities in different states with this class of people show how important it is to christianize them. There is no data at our command by which we can give any statistics as to the number of nominal christians among them. nor by which we can ascertain how many are Baptists. Work among the Germans especially should be greatly enlarged and strong efforts be made to carry on a work among every division of the foreign population. This can be done only by large increase to the Home board. The work of the Home Mission Board among the Indians presents a different problem. The inherited disposition to live without toil and to depend on others, which has been fostered by our government strongly militates against self support, yet their readiness to accept the first principles of Christ by which so large a percentage of them have become believers, would indicate the wisdom and necessity for continuing the work with unabated interest. The painful and pathetic history of this people in connection with our government seems to emphasize the thought that if they are to receive any special kindness it must be at the hands of Christians as such. That it is cheaper to christianize than to kill them is abundantly proved, and patriotism and pity both argue that we should give them the Bible instead of bullets.

NEGRO POPULATION.

No serious mind can dwell upon the condition of "our brother in black," without mingled feelings of pity and alarm. The negro is the most dependent race of which we have any knowledge. It will cling to and rely upon somebody or some thing. Its confidence is almost limitless and childlike. This beautiful confidence is unreservedly given to those who strive to win it, be they good or bad. The negro is lamentably superstitious because of his ignorance, and is mainly controlled through that characteristic. By reason of this fact the average negro preacher is almost wholly unfit for leadership, which the high functions of his exalted office demand. The blind leading the blind find a ditch at every step. The christian people of the south have not the full confidence of the negro. When he became a freeman, christian people left him to lookout for his own destiny. White wandering like lost children in a forest, designing political demagogery laid its polluted scourging hand upon the race and led it away from ruth, happiness and prosperity. Christian people looked upon the scene, but refused to enter a contest with politicians that they might retain the confidence of those who had watched and waited in their own homes.

NATIVE POPULATION.

The rapid changes going on in the South greatly affect the native population. Many Baptist rural districts, once strong in members and wealth, have been greatly weakened on account of the removal into towns and cities, The missionary ought to be in every town and city to receive and organize these Baptist into working forces as soon as they land. The weakened places must be made strong. The native population of the south, as experience abundantly shows, can be reached by Baptist for Christ. Here is not only a vast field but one of the most promising on which the sun shines. If the great mass of Baptist in the south were trained, educated, developed and loyal to Christ, we could soon reach all the native and foreign population with the gospel, and then we could rapidly advance to the conquest of the world. Each christian ought to study this question as regards his own community and feel called of God to work there as well as elsewhere. While it is not right to stey at Jerusalem, it is right to begin there. We must look after our own southern land as never before.

SHERIFF LACY, Chairman.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The subject of Foreign Missions is one that all Baptist should be interested in, and well informed on. When we read our Lord's great and last command, "Go into all the world and pleach the gospel to every creature," and then read of the millions without the grapel, how can we allow the ages to pass on, keep our God

talled men at home, while we sit in listless indifference, spending thousands of dollars upon useless luxuries. Think of the four hundred millions of souls in China, the most of them sunk in the grossest heathenism, hastening with rapid strides to their eternal destiny; and only thirty-five southern Baptist men and women, some growing old and some hardly entered upon the work; laboring with this vast number of people. The doors are wide open all around us, the people are cordially welcoming us to their towns, villages and homes. Not many are caring for the bread of life, for they know not of its existence; but should not their destitution appeal to us all the more strongly on that account? On the hopeful field of Japan we need specially to note the great demand for a large working force. The fulness of time has come in that land and what is mostly needed, is the men to go forth to sow. Mexico, our dear neighbor, is sending to us the Macedonian cry, "come over and help us." and all our foreign field in Roman Catholic countries in papal lands, now is the time for Paptist. If our principles have been valuable for our own country they will be more valuable for lands cursed by Roman Catholicism. Let our motto in regard to the foreign fields be enlargement and not retrenchment. Why are not our churches stronger missionaries? We believe it is because the pastors do not teach them by precept and example as the Bible teaches the subject of missions. Therefore we recommend that pastors go home with the determination, by the help of the Lord to preach at least one sermon (n missions every three months. Respectfully submitted. J. E. BARNARD, Chairman.

During the discussion of the above reports a special collection was taken for foreign missions amounting to \$20.76. Adjourned till 1 o'clock, EVENING SESSION.

At 1 o'clock p. m. met pursuant to adjournment and after devotional services, was called to order. The following resolutions were adopted.

RESOLVED, That we undertake to raise for missionary purposes the coming year \$600, the amount suggested to us by the State Mission Board. State missions \$500, Home missions \$102, Foreign missions \$198.

2. Resolved, that this shall in no sense be regarded as a tax, but a request that

the churches try to raise these amounts.

3. Resolved that a committee of five be appointed to apportion the amount out to the churches and their report be printed in the minutes.

The moderator appointed a committee to apportion to the churches amount requested of us for missions during this year, to-wit: G. D. O'Rear, J. E. Barnard, W. L. Sides, Alcy Johnson, and J. P. Mooney.

Called for report of missionaries.

Report of J. W. Rogers for six months of Sunday labor, done in the bounds of the North River Association, under the direction of the Executive committee: Days of labor performed 24; miles traveled 510; sermons preached 24; prayers 48; addresses 16; visits 29; collected from the field \$10.57; received from executive committee, \$19.58; total amount received \$30.15; current expenses, \$10.90; a nount due \$79.85; amount received since arriving at association \$55; J. P. Mooney \$2.50.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. Rogers

Report of J. E. Barnard, Missionary of North River Association, rendered September 28, 1891: Commenced work May 2, 1891; amount received from churches and individuals \$65.15, amount received from executive committee \$70; total amount received \$135.15; days of services 120, miles traveted 1293, sermons delivered 111, total number sermons, Sunday school and prayer meeting talks 152, churches constituted 1, number persons baptized 31, partized by others in connection with my work 34, total no. baptisms 65, received by letter 43, restored 2, total no received 110, Sunday schools organized 2, prayer meetings organized 2, prayer meetings held 15, no. churches visited 15, no, visits to families 275, meeting honses commenced 1.

J. E. Barnard, Missionary.

REPORT ON PRAYER AND PRAYER MEETINGS.

We, your committee on prayer meeting beg leave to report that we recommend

that each church meet as often as once a week in a prayer meeting. Inasmuch as God has promised to answer the prayers of his faithful children, we believe it to be the duty of each christian to meet oft in prayer for each other and for the world of mankind. We recommend that our preachers insist on their churches organizing and keeping up a regular prayer meeting. We are glad to know that some churches are engaged in this good work. We have 34 churches in our association and only 8 prayer meetings reported. The effectual fervent prayer of the righteous availeth much; we know of nothing beneath heaven's blue vault that is so powerful as the sincere simple prayer. For to this an eternal, omnipotent God has committed himself to us his power, prayer, which is a constant duty and privilege. Frayer is practically desire, prayer without desire is dead. Where desire is burning in the soul it sends up the flame of prayer, or the sparks of sighs and groans. Prayer is the christians vital breath, the christians native air. Respectfully submitted. world of mankind. We recommend that our preachers insist on their churches

Report on aged and infirm ministers,

We your committee on aged and infirm ministers, report as follows: We again report Eld. L. B. Harbin, an aged and infirm minister of our association, and we recommend that a collection be taken for him now and that a committee of one from each church of this association be appointed to take a collection some time during the year for him and the amount sent to the treasurer of this association to be paid to L. B. Harbin. H. G. AMERSON, Chairman.

Then a collection was taken for L. B. Harbin amounting to \$12.95. Then requested the delegates to select one of their number from each church, to take a collection at some time during the year for L. B. Harbin and forward same to treasurer of this association as suggested in above report.

The following reports were read and adopted.

REPORT ON RELIGIOUS LITERATURE.

We your committee on religious literature report as follows: We recommend the Kind Words Series as a Sunday school hterature, and we recommend that the brethren of our association in buying any religious books to buy them from J. B. Collier of the Book Depository, Opelika, Ala. We recommend as religious newspapers, the Alabama Baptist, printed at Montgomery, Ala., though the sucscript ion price is high. The Home Field printed at Atlanta, Ga., and the Foreign Mission Journal at Richmond Va., and the State Mission Quarterly, printed at Marien, Ala, and we hereby urren upon all our people the great inverse. ted at Marion, Ala., and we hereby urge upon all our people the great importance of placing religious literature in their families. We also recommend the American Baptist Pub'ishing Society and we state that they publish a good Sunday school literature. Respectfully submitted, JAMES HILTON, Chairman.

TREASURERS REPORT.

Received from Finance Committee
CREDITS.
Paid to Executive Committee State Missions \$ 79 55
L. B. Harbin
" " Home " 23 90
" " Ministerial Education 1 00
L. B. Harbin, aged ministers fund
" " bal. associational fund 6 00
for printing minutes and blank letters
" Clerk's fee
bal. due for last year 100
" for paper and postage
J. S. Watts, Treasurer.

Appointed J. S. Watts Treasurer.

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

We your committee on documents having examined into the papers and documents handed to us beg leave to say we find nothing in these claiming the attention of the body.

J. W. ROGERS, Chairman.

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

We your committee on nominations report as follows: To preach the introductory sermon at our next association, J. E. Barnard, James Hilton alternate. To preach Sunday at 11 o'clock L. B. Harbin, L. M. Bradley alternate. The following named brethren are nominated to go to the Baptist State Convention: W. B. Appling, James Hilton, L. B. Harbin, L. M. Bradley, G. D. O'Rear, J. I. McCollum, Jno. H. Pool, J. W. Rogers, J. R. Sartain and W. T. Rutledge. Also named L. M. Bradley to go to the Southern Baptist Convention, James Hilton alternate. Respectfully submitted. J. F. Appling, Chairman.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

X7				former and mit the fellowing on any	A
				finance submit the following report	
Recei	ived for	r mi	nute	8	\$33.95
46	"	Ass	sistar	nt purposes	14.95
44	44	Sta	ite M	dissions	179.23
+4	66	Ho	me I	Missions	26.51
+4	66			Missions	
66	**			" special collection	20.76
44	44	Br	o. L.	B Harbin	27.50
66	66	Mi	niste	B. Harbinerial Education	9.00-\$344.90
			111000	CREDITS.	
Daid.	W D	7,,,,,	ntor		\$1.1 DC
Paid	W. D.	run	ibror	for Home Missions per voucher	414.00
**		,	•	" Foreign " "	15.86
66	** ** .	. '	16	"Our Missionary for State Mis-	
	sions	as p	er vo	ouchers	120.27
44	G. W	\mathbf{Ellis}	min	isterial education per voucher	9.00
44	cash a	ind v	rouch	ner L. B. Harbin	27.50
44	cash J	. F.	Appl	ing Chairman Executive Committee	58.96
44	JSV	Vatts	for	Home Mission	12 45
66	" "	46	***	Foreign "	37.91
46	66 66	6.6	66	Associational purposes	14 95
66	66 66	66	66	Minutes	23.05_\$2.14.00
				C D O'D	
				G. D UKEA	r, Chairman.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

We your Executive Committee beg leave to report that soon after the adjournment of our association we opened correspondence with a number of breth] ren looking to the selection of some one available and capable to do work for the master, as a mis ionary in the destitute portions of our association and after receiving communications from several brethren and among others Eld. J. E. Barnard and after consulting with several of our brethren we called a meeting of the committee about the middle of April and after discussing the subject thoroughly and prayfully we invited brother J. E. Barnard to attend one of our meetings and after informing him that the work we expected him to do was strictly in the destitute parts of the association, feeling that he was a fit person for such work, we contracted with him for the sum of \$45 per month for actual service rendered to commence on the 1st of May. We futher report that soon after we held an other meeting of the committee looking to the selection of some one suitable to do missionary work along the railroad lines in the bounds of our association as there were several important stations without Baptist preaching and feeling that the Baptist cause ought to be represented at these

points and after discussing the subject thoroughly and prayfully and corresponding with Eld. J. W. Rogers and other and after receiving a communication from Bro. Rogers we requested him to meet with us and after giving him full instructions as to the work we expected to be done we found he would undertake the work and preach four Sundays in each month, one at Horse Creek, one at Gamble Mines, one at Boldo and one at Carbon Hill, giving each one of these places one week straight work some time in the summer and we feel that he was fitted for the work. We employed him for the balance of the associational year to commence work about the middle of April and agreed to pay him \$20 per month for actual services rendered. We also strongly urged Bros. Barnard and Rogers to take collections for missions at all times where at all practicable and also feeling sure that the pastors of the different churches would make a strong effort to collect the amounts proportioned to each church at our last association we felt safe in employing the missionaries to do work for the master.

Amount due J. E. Barnard for 120 days work at \$1.50 per day \$180.00

e felt safe in employing the missionaries to do work for the master.

Amount due J. E. Barnard for 120 days work at \$1.50 per day

Collected from field

Amount paid by Executive Committee

Total paid J. E. Barnard

Amount due J. W. Rogers for 24 days work

"collected from field

"collected from field

"paid by Executive Committee

"paid by Executive Committee

"by time lost.

Total paid J. E. Barnard

Amount collected by J. E. Barnard

Amount collected by J. E. Barnard

"J. W. Rogers

"from Jasper church

"Macedonia church

"Macedonia church

"Macedonia church

"Mt. Zion church

"Boldo church

"Sunday collections

Total amount collected

By amount paid J. E. Barnard

"Sunday collections

Total amount paid J. E. Barnard

"Sunday collections

Total amount paid out

"J. W. Rogers

Total amount paid out

282.65

Balance on hand

J F. Appling, Ch'n Ex. Com.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE TO RAISE MEANS FOR L. B. HARIN.

Your committee appointed to take up a collection for Bro. L. B. Harbin at our last association beg leave to support. Since our last association we have received and paid to Bro. Harbin

served and hard to pro-	1144 1744	\$10.05
From Jasper church	h	7 75
"SMt. Zion "		9.00
" Drawidonaa "		
Frovidence "		
" Lebanon "		2.00
" Mt. Carmel "		04.00
Total amount	received	
Total amount	WM RANDOLPH.	Chairman.

REPORT ON VOCAL MUSIC.

We your committee on vocal music beg leave to report. So far as our knowledge extends our people are beginning to wake up to this important work. The science of vocal music in our bounds has greatly improved since our last session. Respectively submitted.

R. A. Baker, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON APPORTIONMENT.

We your committee on apportionment request the pastors and members of the churches to try to raise by beginning at once the amounts placed opposite their names for missionary purposes.

Mt. Carmel\$15	.00 Macedoni	a	\$30,00
New Prospect1			
Mt Olive	.50 Friendshi	p	5.00
Jasper	.50 Hepsebal	ī	7.50
Liberty Grove15	.00 Bethel		
Samaria	'.50 Oregonia		
Union Grove No. 1	.50 Lebanon.		15.00
Berry Station22	.50 Bethleher	m	20.00
Day's Gap	3.50 Mt. Zion		15.00
Salem	7.50 Pleasant	Field	12 00
Mt Joy	2.50 Pleasant	Grove, F. C	
New Hope15	.00 Gamble M	lines	15.00
Providence	0.00 Union		
Pleasant Grove, W. C	50 Liberty		
Zion15	.00 Townley.		10 00
New River10	.00 Total		600.00

G. D. O'REAR, Chairman,

The following committees were appointed for the ensuing year:

On Sunday Schools—E. S. McIntyre, F. M. Mackey, C. C. Kelly.
On Temperance—R. A. Baker, R. F. Sumner, C. M. D. Wilson.
On State Missions—G. D. O'Rear, J. P. Mooney, J. T. Morris
On Home Missions—Jno. H. Pool, W. F, Sides, W. T. Rutledge.
On Foreign Missions—J, W. Rogers, Wm. Patton, Wm. M. McDuff
On Prayer Meetings—W. T. Rutledge, Jno. Black, J. A. Sumner.
On Education—S. Lacy, Ira Robins, T. J. Creel.
On Religious Literature—J. I. McCollum, J. F. Appling, A. L. Files.
On Vocal music—W. T. Walton, H. G. Amerson, G. E. Coven.
Executive Committee—J. F. Appling, G. D. O'Rear, D. J. Files, J. P. Mooney, W. H. McClane.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

On motion the delegates are requested when they go home to try to raise some means to help Townley build a church.

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved that the 4th clause of the constitution be changed so as to read thus: "The association shall elect a moderator and clerk annually" offered by W. T. WALTON

Resolved that we have 1030 copies of the minutes of this association printed by the Jasper Headlight and that the clerk be allowed \$15 for his services as clerk.

S. LACY.

Resolved that this body tender thanks to the moderator and clerk for their ficient service during session of our association.

S. Lacy. efficient service during session of our association.

Resolved that we tender thanks to Liberty Grove church and community for their hospitality, kindness and attention during this association. S. LACY.

On motion the minutes were read, roll called and absentees marked. After prayer and extending the parting hand the association adjourned to meet with Bethlehem church on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in September, A. D 1892.

J. S. WATTS, Clerk.

L. M. Bradley, Moderator.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

L. B. Harbin, Jug, Ala,
 L. M. Bradley, Jasper.
 J. K. Sartain, Day's Gap,
 W. P. Smith, Sarargosa,
 A. A. Smith, Carbon Hill,

5. A. A. Smith, Caroon IIII, 6. S. A. Smith, South Lowell, 7. J. W. Rogers, Jasper, 8. C. C. Collins, Blackwater, 8. W. T. Rutledge, King,

10. Wm. Patton, Patton,

11. A. Kilgore, Patton. 12. J. H. Pool, Day's Gap,

13. H. A. Key, Jug, 14. James Hilton, Blackwater,

15. Z. J. Amerson, Tolledo, 16. J. T. Busbee, Jug,

17. J. T. Jones, Corona, 18. J. W. Snow, Corona, 19. J. E. Barnard, Eldridge, 20. J. I. McCollum, Dublin,

21. M. D. L. Sanders, Horse Creek.

22. Lee Williams, Boldo. 23. E. H. Tingle, Quinton, 24. J. L. Sanders, Horse Creek, 25. L. H. Baker, Tolledo, 26. W. B. Earnest, " 27. Ansly Brown, Jasper.

CONSTUITION.

We, the Baptist Churches of Jesus Christ, are desirous of a reciprocal union; we, therefore, propose to maintain the Order and Rules of the Association, ac-

cording to the following plan:

We believe that the Churches of Christ are mutually independent of each other and that the congregational form of Church government should be inviolably preserved; yet being convinced of the utility of friendly intercourse and prous councils on the principles of reciprocal advantage and Christian love, we hold it to be the duty of the churches to pay respect on these principles to the advice of the Association.

1. The Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches in our Union, who, on producing letters from their respective churches certifying their appointment, shall be entitled to seats; the letters so produced shall express the condition of their churches respectively, viz: The number in fellowship, the number received by baptism, by restoration, dismissed, excommunicated, and died, since the last Association, which letters shall be read and the

delegates' name enrolled.
2. The members thus chosen and convened shall be known by the name of

NORTH RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

3. We declare ourselves a missioanry body on the Bible plan. The Association may appoint an Executive Committee, whose duty it shall be to employ a missionary, or missionaries, to travel and preach the gospel to the destitute in her bounds, and to enlarge the field of labor, if necessary; and too it shall be the duty of said committee appoint a treasurer to take charge of all the money paid over by the several churches for the support of the mission, also said treasurer shall make a correct report at each and every annual session of this body, of all money received, expenditures, and the surplus on hand, if any, which report shall be affixed to the Minutes of the Association.

4. The Association shall elect a Moderator and Clerk annually.
5. This body shall have no esercive power to lord it over God's heritage, or to infringe on any of the internal privileges or rights of the churches in our Union; but shall only be considered an adversory council in all matters respecting their

internal concerns.

6. To give the churches the best advice she can in all matters of difficulty, and if the Union should be broken between any of the churches, to inquire into the cause of the breach, and use her best endeavors to remove the difficulty; but if the breach cannot be repaired, to withdraw from any church or churches which they may look upon to be unsound in principle, or immo al in practice, until the same be reclaimed.

7. To take up no case of any church in our Union without the consent of a ma-

iority of the churches.

8. Newly constituted or dismissed churches may be received into our Union by their representatives, as before stated, and the Moderator shall signify the same by giving the right hand of fellowship.

9 The Association, when convened, shall be governed by such rules as she may ad pt. She may adjourn from day to day until she shall have finished all the

business that may be brought before her.

10. Every church numbering fifty members, or less, shall be entitled to three lay members as delegates; and for every twenty-five members over fifty, one lay member as delegate, and elect any ordained minister, in addition thereto, that she may hold in her membership if she choose.

11. To have the Minutes of the Association read and altered, if necessary, and

signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association rises, and have them

printed, if she thinks proper.

12. The Association shall in all cases be governed by a majority of the members.

13. Voting shall be confined exclusively to the body in all acts respecting their

internal concerns.

14, To amend the plan or form of government at any time when a majority of the Union shall deem it necessary

DECLARATION OF FAITH.

1. On the Scriptures—We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men diyould inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly in truction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error for its mat'er; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us; and therefore is and shall remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian Union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions should be tried.

should be tried.

2. Of the True God—That there is one true and living God, whose name is Jehovah, the maker and supreme ruler of Heaven and Earth, inexpressibly glorious in holiness; worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love; revealed under the personal and relative distinction of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost; equal in every divine perfection and executing distinct but harmonious office in the great work of Redemption.

3. Of the Fall of Man—That man was created in a state of holiness, under the law of his Maker, but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state, in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint but by choice; being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by

straint but by choice; being by nature utterly void of that holiness, required by the law of God, wholly given to the gratification of the world, of Satan, and their own sinful passions, and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defense or excuse.

4. Of the Way of Salvation—That the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the medatorial offices of the Son of God, who took upon him our nature, yet without sin; honored the law by his personal obedience, and made atonement for our sins by his death, being arisen from the dead he is enthroned in Heaven, and uniting in this wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfection, is every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate, and

all sufficient Savior,

5. OF JUSTIFICATION—That the great Gospel Blessing, which Christ of his fullness bestows on such as believe in him, is justification; that justification consists in the pardon of sin and the promise of eternal life, on principles of righteousness, that it is not bestowed in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through its own redemption and righteousness. that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and se-

cures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.

6. OF THE FREENESS OF SALVATION-That the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial and obedient faith, and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, except his own voluntary refusal to submit to the Lord Jesus Christ; which refusal will submit him to an aggravated condemnation.

7. Of Grace and Regeneration -- That in order to be saved, we must be regenerated and born again; that the regeneration consist in giving a holy disposition to the mind and is affected in a manner above our comprehension or calculation, by the power of the Holy Spirit, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the Gospel, and that its proper evidence is our voluntary obedience found in

the holy fruit which we bring forth to the glory of God.

8. Of God's Purpose of Grace—That election is the gracious purpose of God according to which he regenerates, sanctifies, and save sinners; that being perfeetly consistent with the moral agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end; that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely wise, holy and unchangeable, that it utterly excludes boasting, and promotes humility, prayer, praise, truth in God, and active imitation of His free mercy, that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree; that it is ascertainable by its effects in all who believe in the Gospel; it is the foundation of Christian assurance; and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves, demands and deserves our utmost diligence.

9. OF THE PERSEVERANCE OF SAINTS-That such only are real believers as endure unto the end; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors; that a special providence watches over their welfare, and they are kept by the power of God through

faith unto salvation.

10. HARMONY OF THE LAW AND GOSPEL.-That the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of his moral government; that it is holy, just and good; and the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfill its precepts, arises entirely from their love of sin; to deliver them from which, and to restore them through a Mediator, to unfeigned obedience to the Holy Law, is one great end of the Gospel, and the means of grace connected with the establishment of His visible church.

11. Of A Gosper Church—That a visible Church of Christ is a congregation

of baptised believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel; observing the ordinance of Christ; governed by His laws, and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by His word; that its only proper officers or bishops are pastors, and deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in the Epistles to Timothy and Titus.

12. ON BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER-That Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water, in the name of the Father, Son and Spirit; to show forth in solemn and beautiful emblem our faith in a crucified, buried and risen Savior; that it is prerequisite to the privilages of a church relation, and the Lord's Supper, in which the members of the church, by the use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dving love of Christ, preceded always by solemn selfexamination.

13. OF THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH—That the first day of the week is the Lord's day, or Christian Sabbath, and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes by abstaining from all secular labor and recreation by the devout observance of all the means of grace, both private and public, and by preparation for the rest which

remaineth for the people of God.

14. OF CIVIL GOVERNMENT—That civil government is of divine appontment, for the interest and good of human society; and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed, except in things opposed to the will of the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of conscience and prince of the kings of the earth.

15. OF THE RIGHTEOUS AND WICKED—That there is a radical and essential dif-

ference between the righteous and the wicked; that such as only through faith are instified in the name of the Lord Jesus; and sanctified by the Spirit of God are truly righteous in his esteem, while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are in His sight wicked, and under the curse, and this distinction holds

among men in and after death.

16 OF THE WORLD TO COME-That the end of this world is approaching, and that at the last day Christ will descend from Heaven and raise the dead from the grave to final retribution; that a separation will then take place, that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy; and that this judgement will fix forever the final state of men in Heaven or Hell, on the principles of righteousness.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1st. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

2nd. But one person shall speak at a time, and he shall rise to his feet and ad dress the Moderator.

3rd. No member shall be interrupted while speaking unless be depart from the

question, or use words of personal reflection.

4th. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except withdrawn by him who made it.

5th. Every case taken up by the Association shall be decided or withdrawn before another is offered.

6th. When any question is taken up by the Association, after allowing time for debute, the Moderator shall take the question by yeas and mays, or otherwise; and the decision thus made shall be announced by the Moderator immediately.

7th. No person shall depart from the service of the Association without leave of

the Moderator.

8th. No person shall speak more than twice on the same subject without leave obtained.

9th. The appellation of brother shall be used in our addresses one to another. 10th The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilage as any other member, provided he appoint some other member to his seat while speaking or otherwise, but shall not vote unless the Association be equally divided.

11th. Any member violating the above rules may be reproved as the Associa-

tion may think proper, only on the day the offense shall have occurred.



	/: / · · · · · · · · · · · · /:	
-	Berry Station Day's Gap Friendship Gamble Mines Hepsit ah Jasper Lebanon Liberty Grove Liberty Mt Zion Mt Joy Mt Zion Mt Olive Mt Carmel New Hope Mt Carmel New Hope New Prospect Oregonia Pleasant Grove, W C Providence Pleasant Grove F C Pleasant Grove F C Pleasant Grove F C Pleasant Grove No Salen Onion Grove No Union Grove No Zion	CHURCH. Bethabara. Betblehem
	r e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e	ASTOR.
		CLERK. L Stewart. W Popewell s Willent Jr.
	Berry Station Day's Gap Gamble South Lowell Jasper Patton Patton Toledo Cordova Dublin Oregonia Jasper Oregonia	Rec. by Baptism
91 17 88 53 24 1692 3395 1495	C	Rec. by Letter Restored Dis. by Letter. Excluded. Died.
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